

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 06281 211637Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01
/086 W

-----129065 211649Z /61

O R 211616Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5390
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06281

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: RH, BC, PDEV
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUZOREWA VISIT TO BOTSWANA

REF: STATE 101530

1. FCO HAS INFORMED HICOM TURNER IN GABORONE THAT IT
HAS NO DIFFICULTY WITH REFTEL'S TALKING POINTS, WHICH
COMPLEMENT THOSE IN INSTRUCTIONS FCO SENT TURNER
APRIL 20.

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2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FCO'S APRIL 20 INSTRUCTION TO
TURNER:
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PAGE 02 LONDON 06281 211637Z

BEGIN TEXT:
PLEASE THANK THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE FOR THIS
OPPORTUNITY.
IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IF PRESIDENT KHAMA WERE TO
REMIND BISHOP MUZOREWA THAT HE ALONE OF THE INTERNAL
NATIONALIST LEADERS IS WIDELY RECOGNISED OUTSIDE RHODESIA
AS A GENUINE REPRESENTATIVE OF SUBSTANTIAL SECTORS OF

OPINION WITHIN THE COUNTRY, AND AS A MAN WHO HAS STOOD UP TO MR. SMITH. HE MIGHT SAY THAT A NUMBER OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED, AT LAST YEAR'S OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE, THE CALL TO RECOGNISE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS THE SOLE LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN RHODESIA, AND THAT THIS WAS MAINLY TO AVOID CLOSING THE DOOR ON HIM AND HIS PARTY. HE NEEDS TO BE ENCOURAGED TO AVOID BECOMING TOTALLY IDENTIFIED WITH THE OTHER PARTIES TO THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT AND TO KEEP HIS LINES OPEN, BOTH TO

SUMMIT IN KHARTOUM THIS SUMMER, AND ALSO TO OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS WHOSE UNDERSTANDING OF HIS POSITION MAY WELL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE DURING THE MONTHS AHEAD. WE GREATLY REGRETTED THE REFUSAL BY MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO GIVE HIM A HEARING LAST MONTH.

PRESIDENT KHAMA MIGHT ALSO EMPHASISE TO BISHOP MUZOREWA THE GRAVE DANGERS THERE WOULD BE IF HE WERE TO REFUSE TO ATTEND ROUND-TABLE TALKS. THE WORLD WOULD CONCLUDE THAT HE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN BRINGING IN THE PATRIOTIC FRONT OR IN A CEASEFIRE AND WOULD IDENTIFY HIM COMPLETELY WITH MR. SMITH. THAT IN TURN WOULD TEND TO REDUCE HIS LEVERAGE WITH MR. SMITH. REFUSAL WOULD ALSO HAVE A VERY ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE STANDING OF THE SALISBURY PARTIES AS A WHOLE IN TERMS OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION. WE WOULD UNDERSTAND IT IF THE SALISBURY PARTIES

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PAGE 03 LONDON 06281 211637Z

WERE TO SAY THAT THEY WERE NOT READY TO MEET US WITHIN THE NEXT 2 OR 3 WEEKS, BUT WE VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THEY WILL BE PREPARED TO ATTEND A ROUND-TABLE MEETING WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT SOME TIME NEXT MONTH.

YOU WILL WISH TO BE AWARE OF MY TALK WITH BISHOP MUZOREWA ABOUT A POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN HIM AND PRESIDENT NYERERE (SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM TO DAR ES SALAAM). OWEN. END TEXT.

STREATOR

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NNN

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